

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) **EP 1 386 844 A1**

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION
published in accordance with Art. 158(3) EPC

(43) Date of publication:

04.02.2004 Bulletin 2004/06

(51) Int Cl.7: **B65D 1/02, B65D 1/42**

(21) Application number: **02722830.3**

(86) International application number:
PCT/JP2002/004228

(22) Date of filing: **26.04.2002**

(87) International publication number:
WO 2002/087978 (07.11.2002 Gazette 2002/45)

(84) Designated Contracting States:

**AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE TR**

Designated Extension States:

AL LT LV MK RO SI

(72) Inventors:

- **SAITO, Hiromichi,**
c/o Yoshino Kogyosho Co. Ltd
Tokyo 136-8531 (JP)
- **IIZUKA, Takao, c/o Yoshino Kogyosho Co. Ltd**
Tokyo 136-8531 (JP)

(30) Priority: **27.04.2001 JP 2001132266**

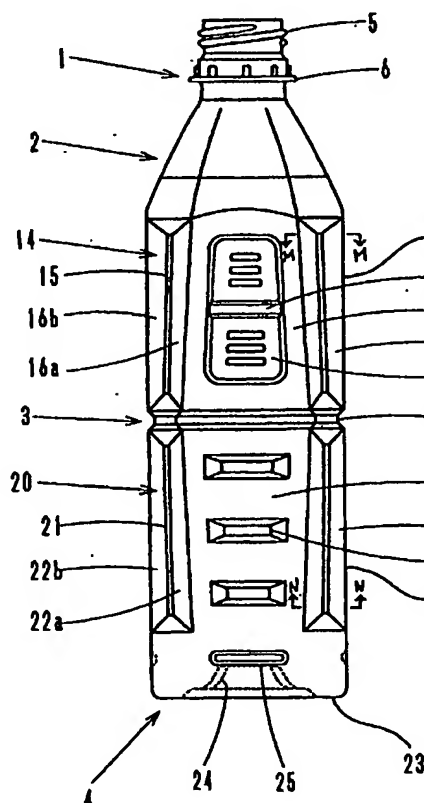
(71) Applicant: **Yoshino Kogyosho Co., Ltd.**
Tokyo 136-8531 (JP)

(74) Representative: **Crouch, David John et al**
Bromhead & Co.
37 Great James Street
London WC1N 3HB (GB)

(54) BLOW MOLDING BOTTLE

(57) It is an object of the invention to provide a bottle which cross section is substantially tetragonal chamfered along the corners thereof is reinforced at the corner walls thereof. A blow-molded bottle having a shoulder (3) and a body (4) which cross section is a substantially tetragonal chamfered along corners thereof, wherein the body (4) includes an upper body section (7), a lower body section (8), and a transversal recessed rib (9) disposed between the upper body section (7) and the lower body section (8), the upper body section (7) has four lateral walls (10) and four corner walls (11), each being arranged between two adjacent lateral walls (10), the lower body section (8) also has four lateral walls (17) and four corner walls (18), each being arranged between two adjacent lateral walls (17), and the corner wall (11, 18) is formed with an axially extending recess (14, 20) which comprises tapered walls (16a, 16b, 22a, 22b). Preferably, said recess (14, 20) comprises a narrow bottom (15, 21) arranged at a center thereof in a lateral direction, and tapered walls (16a, 16b, 22a, 22b). Preferably, all the corner walls (11, 18) are formed with the axially extending recess (14, 20) which comprises tapered walls (16a, 16b, 22a, 22b).

FIG. 1



EP 1 386 844 A1

Description

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] This invention relates to a blow-molded bottle. More particularly, it relates to a bottle which cross section is a substantially tetragonal chamfered along corners thereof.

BACKGROUND ART

[0002] It is known that a bottle has a body having a substantially tetragonal cross section chamfered along corners thereof, and that the corner walls acts or operates as pillars. It has been required recently to decrease an amount of raw material resin from the view of conserving natural resources and protecting the environment. As a result, bottles of the type under consideration are required to have a reduced wall thickness.

[0003] However, if the wall thickness is reduced, conventional bottles of the type under consideration come to be short of rigidity, because they have flat and substantially vertical corner walls. Unless the corner walls are reinforced, the bottle body would happen to be crushed particularly when an internal pressure of the bottle changes and/or the bottle is subjected to an impact.

[0004] In view of the above identified problem, it is therefore the object of the present invention to provide a bottle having reinforced corner walls at the body thereof.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0005] According to the invention, the above object is achieved by providing a blow-molded bottle having a shoulder and a body which cross section is a substantially tetragonal chamfered along corners thereof, wherein the body includes an upper body section, a lower body section, and a transversal recessed rib disposed between the upper body section and the lower body section, the upper body section has four lateral walls and four corner walls, each being arranged between two adjacent lateral walls, the lower body section also has four lateral walls and four corner walls, each being arranged between two adjacent lateral walls, and the corner wall is formed with an axially extending recess which comprises tapered walls.

[0006] Preferably, said recess comprises a narrow bottom arranged at a center thereof in a lateral direction, and tapered walls. Preferably, all the corner walls are formed with the axially extending recess which comprises tapered walls.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007]

- 5 FIG. 1 is a schematic front view of a bottle according to the invention.
 FIG. 2 is a schematic plan view of the bottle of FIG. 1 partially cut along line M-M to show an end facet.
 FIG. 3 is a schematic bottom view of the bottle of FIG. 1 partially cut along line N-N to show an end facet.

PREFERRED EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

- 15 [0008] Now, the present invention will be described by referring to the accompanying drawings that illustrate a preferred embodiment of the invention.
 [0009] A bottle as shown in FIGS. 1 through 3 are manufactured by blow-molding synthetic resin (e.g., polyethyleneterephthalate resin), and comprises a neck 1, a shoulder 2, a body 3 and a bottom 4.
 [0010] The neck 1 is provided with a thread 5 and a neck ring 6.
 [0011] The shoulder 2 is arranged between the neck 1 and the body 3. The shoulder 2 has a substantially tetragonal cross section, which corners are chamfered (in other words, a distorted octagonal cross section).
 [0012] The body 3 also has a substantially tetragonal cross section, which corners are chamfered (in other words, a distorted octagonal cross section). While the cross sections of both the shoulder 2 and the body 3 is a substantially square cross section in the illustrated embodiment, they may be a substantially rectangular or polygonal. The body 3 includes an upper body section 7 and a lower body section 8, and a transversal recessed rib 9 is arranged between the upper body section 7 and the lower body section 8.
 [0013] The upper body section 7 has four lateral walls 10 and four corner walls 11. Each of the corner walls 11 is arranged two adjacently located lateral walls 10, 10. In each of the corner walls 11, a width at a lower end thereof is smaller than that at an upper end, in the illustrated embodiment. Each of the lateral walls 10 is connected smoothly to the adjacently located corner walls 11, 11, and the corner between the lateral wall 10 and the corner wall 11 does not show any edge. Such the bottle in which each of the lateral walls 10 and the adjacently located corner walls 11, 11 are connected smoothly shows a good moldability.
 [0014] Each of the lateral walls 10 is formed with a flat panel 12. The panel 12 has an upper half section and a lower half section, and a transversal rib 13 is formed between the upper half section and the lower half section. Each of the upper half section and the lower half section is formed with a plurality of short transversal ribs.
 [0015] Each of the corner walls 11 has an axially extending recess 14. In the case of the illustrated embodiment, the recess 14 includes a narrow bottom 15 and

a pair of tapered walls 16a, 16b. The bottom 15 is arranged transversally at a center of the recess 14. Each of the tapered walls 16a, 16b is arranged between the bottom 15 and the corresponding lateral end of the corner wall 11.

[0016] Like the upper body section 7, the lower body section 8 has four lateral walls 17 and four corner walls 18. Each of the corner walls 18 is arranged two adjacently located lateral walls 17, 17. The upper body section 7 and the lower body section 8 are substantially axysymmetrical relating to the transversal rib 9 (except the flat panels 12, the transversal ribs 13 and the transversal recessed ribs 19).

[0017] Each of the lateral walls 17 is provided with a plurality of transversal recessed ribs 19.

[0018] In the case of the illustrated embodiment, each of the corner walls 18 has a width at a lower end thereof is smaller than that at an upper end, in the illustrated embodiment. Although each of the corner walls 11 has the smaller width at the lower end and greater width at the upper end and each of the corner walls 18 has the larger width at the lower end and greater width at the upper end in the illustrated embodiment, the corner walls 11 and the corner walls 18 may alternatively have a uniform width. When the width of the corner walls 11 and that of the corner walls 18 are reduced as they approach the transversal recessed rib 9, areas (of the lateral walls 10, 17) that can absorb changes in an internal pressure of the bottle can be increased at a middle of the bottle (near the transversal recessed rib 9), so that the bottle can largely absorb changes in the internal pressure.

[0019] Each of the corner walls 18 is formed with an axially extending recess 20. In the illustrated embodiment, the recess 20 includes a narrow bottom 21 and a pair of tapered walls 22a, 22b. The bottom 21 is arranged transversally at a center of the recess 20.

[0020] Although each of the recesses 14, 20 of the illustrated embodiment has the bottom 15 or 21, no bottoms 15, 21 may be formed, and each of the recesses (14, 20) may comprises only a pair of tapered walls (16a, 16b or 22a, 22b). Although all the corner walls have a recess in the illustrated embodiment, it may alternatively be so arranged that only some of the corner walls have a recess. For example, it may be so arranged that only the corner walls 11 of the upper body section 7 have a recess, or only the corner walls 18 of the lower body section 8 have a recess.

[0021] The bottom 4 includes a bottom wall 23 extended from the lower body section and a dome 25 that expands upward and is provided with a plurality of radial ribs 24. However, the bottom of a bottle according to the invention is not limited to the illustrated one.

[0022] The corner walls 11, 18 of the bottle according to the invention act or operate as pillars like prior art bottles. Additionally, the corner walls 11, 18 are provided with respective recesses 14, 20, each of which includes a pair of tapered walls 16a, 16b or 22a, 22b. With this

arrangement, the corner walls 11, 18 show a raised rigidity. Furthermore, when the recesses 14, 20 are provided with respective bottoms 15, 21, the rigidity of the corner walls 11, 18 are raised further by the bottoms 15, 21. Still additionally, the rigidity of the corner walls 11, 18 are remarkably improved when all the corner walls are provided with a recess 14 or 20.

[0023] Thus, according to the invention, since the corner walls of the body are provided respectively with axially extending recesses, it is now possible to manufacture a thin-walled bottle whose corner walls are reinforced, so as to reduce the amount of resin necessary for manufacturing the bottle.

Claims

1. A blow-molded bottle having a shoulder (3) and a body (4) which cross section is a substantially tetragonal chamfered along corners thereof, wherein the body (4) includes an upper body section (7), a lower body section (8), and a transversal recessed rib (9) disposed between the upper body section (7) and the lower body section (8), the upper body section (7) has four lateral walls (10) and four corner walls (11), each being arranged between two adjacent lateral walls (10), the lower body section (8) also has four lateral walls (17) and four corner walls (18), each being arranged between two adjacent lateral walls (17), and the corner wall (11, 18) is formed with an axially extending recess (14, 20) which comprises tapered walls (16a, 16b, 22a, 22b).
2. The bottle according to claim 1, wherein said recess (14, 20) comprises a narrow bottom (15, 21) arranged at a center thereof in a lateral direction, and tapered walls (16a, 16b, 22a, 22b).
3. The bottle according to claim 1 or 2, wherein all the corner walls (11, 18) are formed with the axially extending recess (14, 20) which comprises tapered walls (16a, 16b, 22a, 22b).

FIG. 1

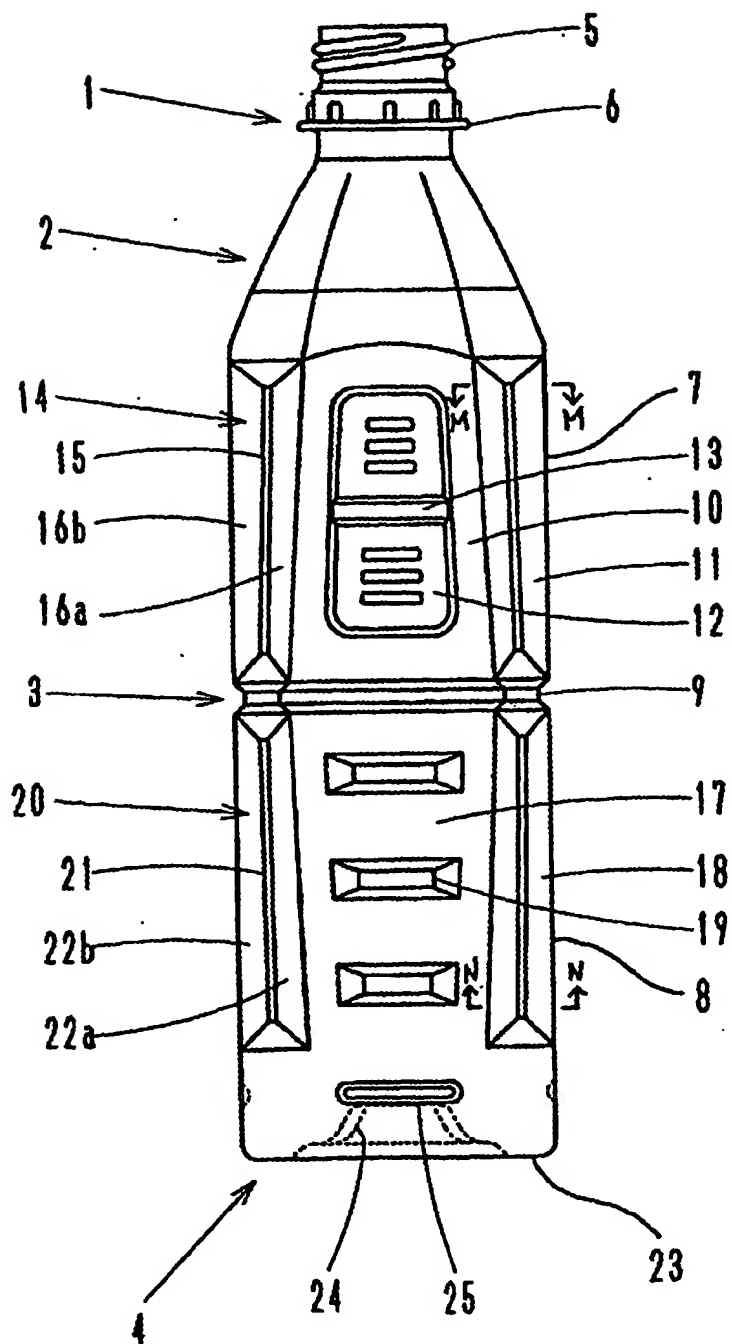


FIG. 2

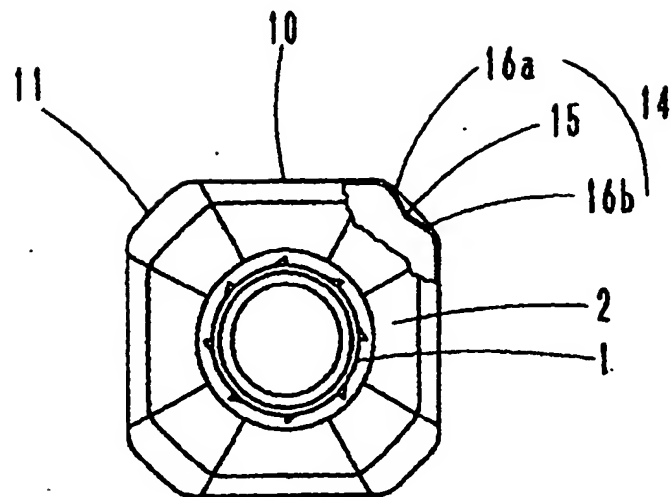
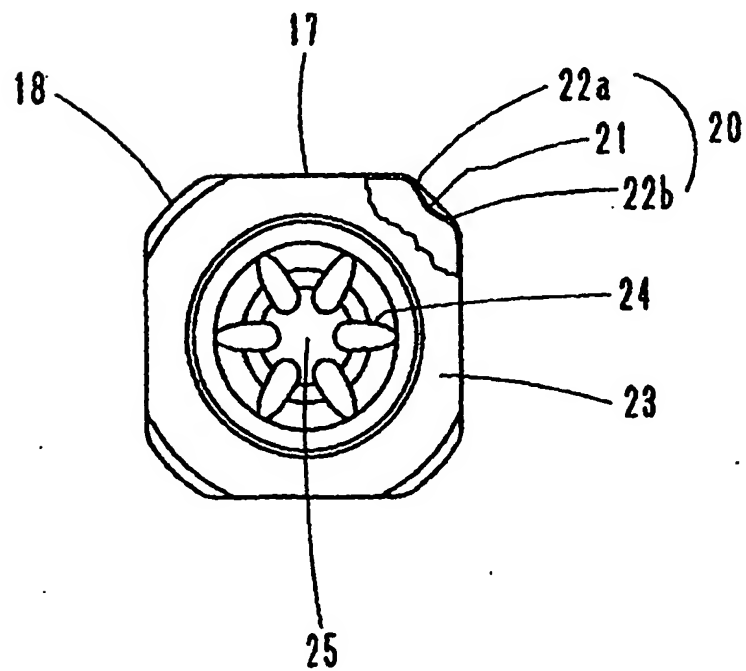


FIG. 3



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP02/04228

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl⁷ B65D1/02, 1/42

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl⁷ B65D1/02, 1/42

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1922-1996	Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1994-2002
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1971-2002	Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho	1996-2002

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP 3050587 U (Nissei ASB Machine Co., Ltd.), 21 July, 1998 (21.07.98), Full text; Figs. 1 to 4 (Family: none)	1-3
Y	Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 129064/1990 (Laid-open No. 84121/1992) (Yoshino Kogyosho Co., Ltd.), 22 July, 1992 (22.07.92), Full text; Figs. 1 to 9 (Family: none)	1-3
A	JP 63-97607 U (Yoshino Kogyosho Co., Ltd.), 24 June, 1988 (24.06.88), Full text; Figs. 1 to 4 (Family: none)	1-3

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "B" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
24 May, 2002 (24.05.02)Date of mailing of the international search report
11 June, 2002 (11.06.02)Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP02/04228

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP 7-205258 A (Nissei ASB Machine Co., Ltd.), 08 August, 1995 (08.08.95), Full text; Figs. 1 to 4 (Family: none)	1-3
A	JP 63-203541 A (Yoshino Kogyosho Co., Ltd.), 23 August, 1988 (23.08.88), Full text; Figs. 1 to 4 & US 5064081 A & EP 506065 A1	1-3

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (July 1998)